

WHAT IS THIS?

Clue #1: Color the Kids
Answer each question. Then, color in each kid.

Clue #2: Read It Like a Book
Color the boxes that rhyme. Cross out the boxes that do not rhyme.
Read the words at the top of each box you colored from left to right like a book to solve the clue.

Clue #3: Word Hunt
Read the box at the bottom.

Clue #4: Error Analysis
Does the picture match the word? Put a check or an X next to each answer.
Read the hint from the leprechaun with the most correct answers.

Clue #5: Descrambler
Look at the picture. Match it to a word below. Write the letter next to each shoe on each line. When the letters are unscrambled, they will make up the clue.

solve the mystery
The Case of the Missing Gold Coins

Where is the Gold?
Figure out where the leprechaun hid the gold by solving the clues.

RAINBOW FALLS
TREASURE MOUNTAIN
LUCKY CHARM INN
CLOVER FOREST
LEPRECHAUN VILLAGE
SILVER BRIDGE
GOLDEN FIELDS
RAINBOW RIVER

Name: _____

The right place has **G O L D I N I T S** name.
trick dress truck drink drum grass drag drop grin

Students complete a series of clues to figure out where the missing coins are!

HOW TO PLAY



What Happened?

The pot of gold at the end of the rainbow is missing! A leprechaun found it and hid it somewhere on the map. Now, it's up to you to figure out where they hid the gold.

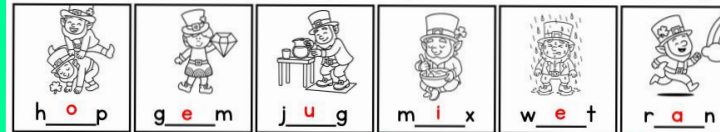
1. Take a map and then start solving each clue.
2. Each time you solve a clue, you will get closer to discovering where the gold is.
3. Cross out wrong locations each time you find out new information. Good luck!



THE LIFETIME LEARNER

Clue #1: Color the Kids

Answer each question. Then, color in each kid.



- | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> A - color it red
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Q - color it green
<input type="checkbox"/> E - color it yellow
<input type="checkbox"/> U - color it blue | <input type="checkbox"/> A - color it red
<input type="checkbox"/> I - color it green
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> E - color it yellow
<input type="checkbox"/> O - color it blue | <input type="checkbox"/> E - color it red
<input type="checkbox"/> A - color it green
<input type="checkbox"/> I - color it yellow
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> U - color it blue | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I - color it red
<input type="checkbox"/> U - color it green
<input type="checkbox"/> O - color it yellow
<input type="checkbox"/> A - color it blue | <input type="checkbox"/> U - color it red
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> E - color it green
<input type="checkbox"/> A - color it yellow
<input type="checkbox"/> O - color it blue | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A - color it red
<input type="checkbox"/> I - color it green
<input type="checkbox"/> O - color it yellow
<input type="checkbox"/> E - color it blue |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|



What color kids do you see? Find the key that matches for your next hint!

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 red kid• 1 blue kid• 2 green kids• 2 yellow kids <p>The gold is not in a place filled with trees.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 red kids• 2 blue kids• 1 green kid• 1 yellow kid <p>The gold is not in a place with water.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 red kids• 1 blue kid• 2 green kids• 1 yellow kid <p>The gold is not where it's hard to climb.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 red kid• 2 blue kids• 1 green kid• 2 yellow kids <p>The gold is not in a place like a hotel.</p> |
|--|---|--|---|

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

Where is the Gold?

Figure out where the leprechaun hid the gold by solving the clues.



Name: _____

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

Each time students solve a clue, it will reveal what place(s) to cross out.
When all clues are completed, the mystery of the missing coins will be solved!

SKILL PRACTICE

Kinder St. Patty's Phonics Review:

- Medial Sounds CVC Review
- CVC Rhyming Words
- Beginning L Blends
- Beginning S Blends
- Beginning R Blends

Clue #1: Color the Kids
Answer each question. Then, color in each kid.

h o p g e m

☐ A - color it red
☒ Q - color it green
☐ E - color it yellow
☐ U - color it blue

☐ A - color it red
☐ I - color it green
☒ E - color it yellow
☐ O - color it blue

What color kids do you see?

- 1 red kid
- 1 blue kid
- 2 green kids
- 2 yellow kids

The gold is not in a place filled with trees.

Clue #2: Read It Like a Book
Color the boxes that rhyme. Cross out the boxes that do not rhyme.
Read the words at the top of each box you colored from left to right like a book to solve the clue.

look	the	go	gold
bed	rub	bat	fix
beg	tub	bag	six
is	not	where	rain
bug	pop	dog	bun
hug	top	log	bus
bridge	trees	people	live
dig	fog	pan	hen
dip	fox	van	pen

Write the phrase on the line. Cross the wrong places off your list.

the gold is not where people live

Clue #3: Word Hunt
Read the box at the bottom.

black plum

plant clip

rainbow flat

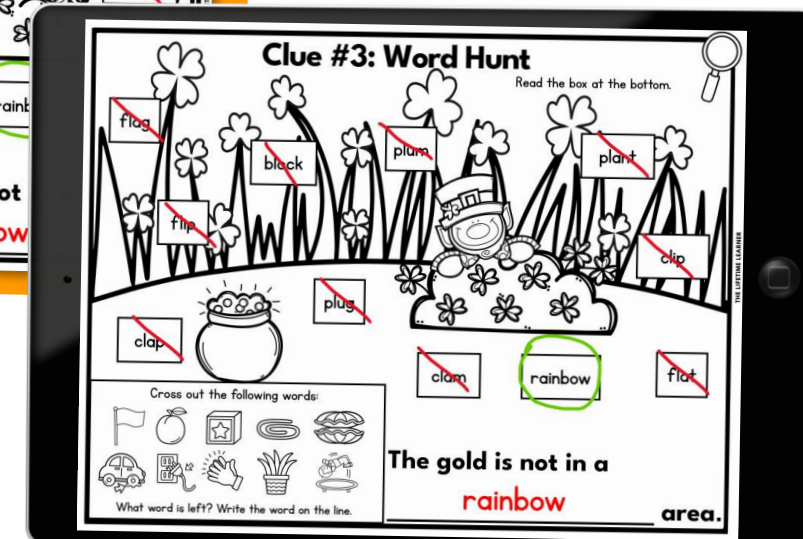
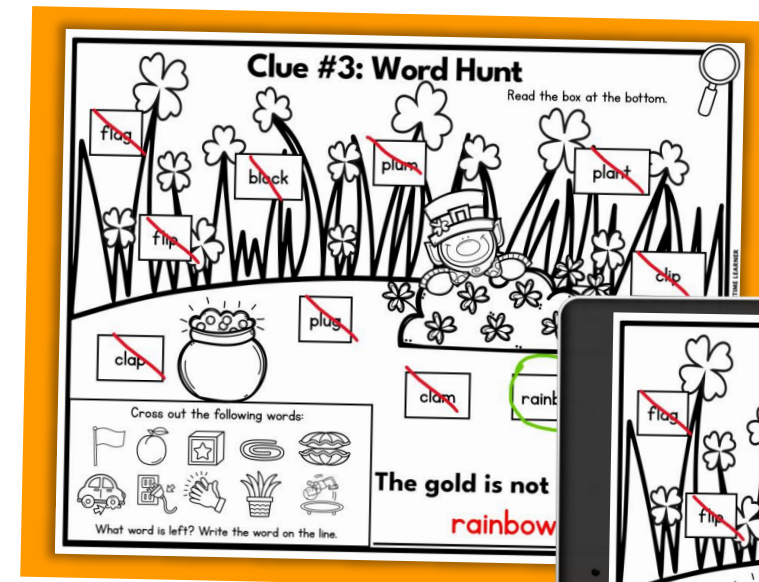
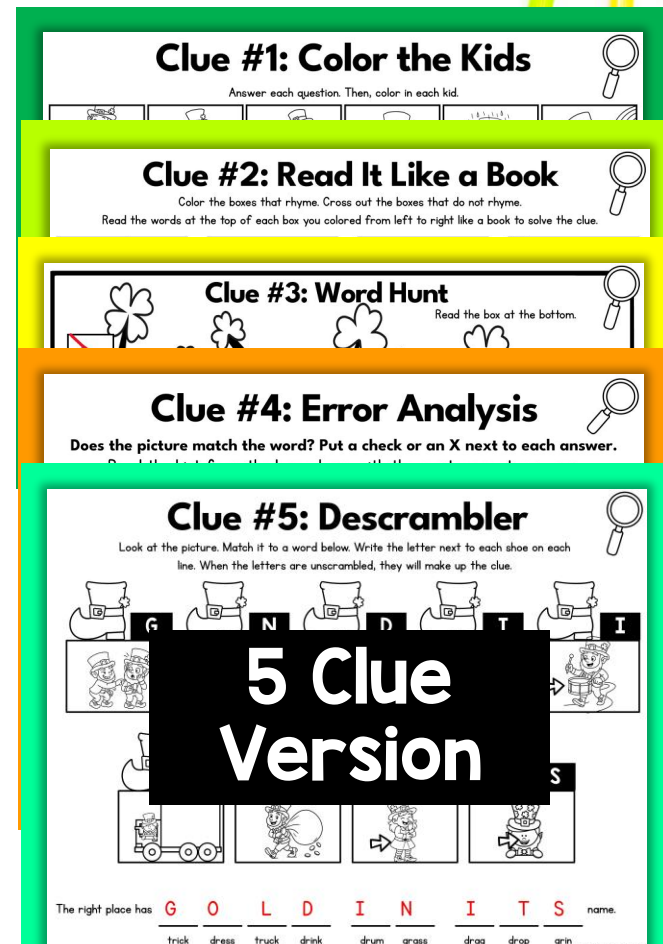
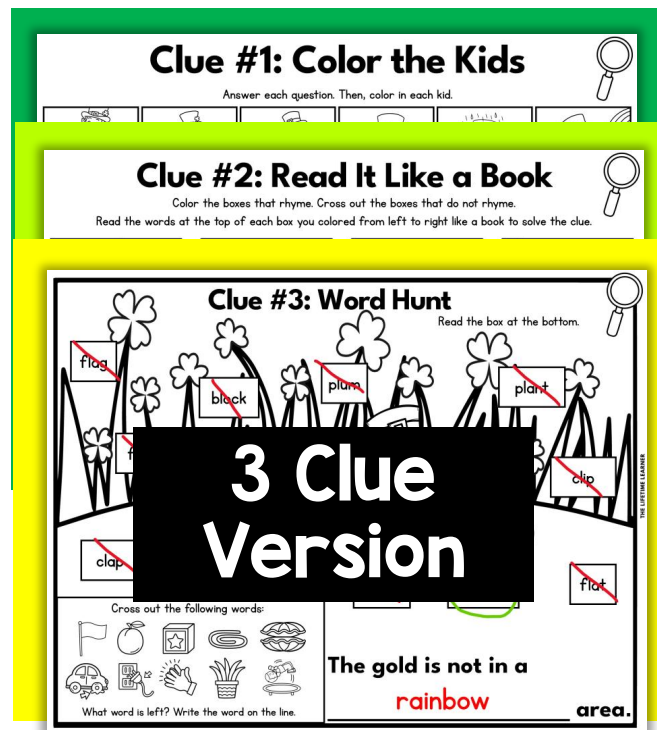
not in a row area.

All clues focus on reviewing many phonics skills!

MULTIPLE VERSIONS



Print & Digital Forms



Short & Long Options

CVC OPTION AVAILABLE

Where is the Gold?
Figure out where the leprechaun hid the gold by solving the clues.

RAINBOW FALLS
TREASURE MOUNTAIN
LUCKY CHARM INN
CLOVER FOREST
LEPRECHAUN VILLAGE
SILVER BRIDGE
GOLDEN FIELDS
RAINBOW RIVER

Name: _____

Clue #1: Color the Kids
Answer each question. Then, color in each kid.

leg - color it red
hat - color it green
top - color it yellow
leg - color it blue

sun - color it red
top - color it green
sun - color it yellow
sun - color it blue

web - color it red
top - color it green
web - color it yellow
web - color it blue

hat - color it red
top - color it green
hat - color it yellow
hat - color it blue

leg - color it red
top - color it green
leg - color it yellow
leg - color it blue

What color kids do you see? Find the key that matches for your next hint!

1 red kid
1 blue kid
2 green kids
2 yellow kids

The gold is not in a place filled with trees.

Clue #2: Read It Like a Book
Color the boxes that rhyme. Cross out the boxes that do not rhyme.
Read the words at the top of each box you colored from left to right like a book to solve the clue.

look the go gold
hen hen web leg
bet pen den beg

is not where rain
pet red vet get
wet bed met ten

bridge trees people live

Clue #3: Word Hunt
Read the box at the bottom.

him dip bib bit six
hip rib tip zip

Cross out the following words:

win rainbow zip

Clue #4: Error Analysis
Does the picture match the word? Put a check or an X next to each answer.
Read the hint from the leprechaun with the most correct answers.

The gold is not in a place with a field.

The gold is not in a place with a river.

The gold is not in a place with shade.

mop net fan
wig hot log
pot mom rod

Clue #5: Descrambler
Look at the picture. Match it to a word below. Write the letter next to each shoe on each line. When the letters are unscrambled, they will make up the clue.

G N D T I
L I O S

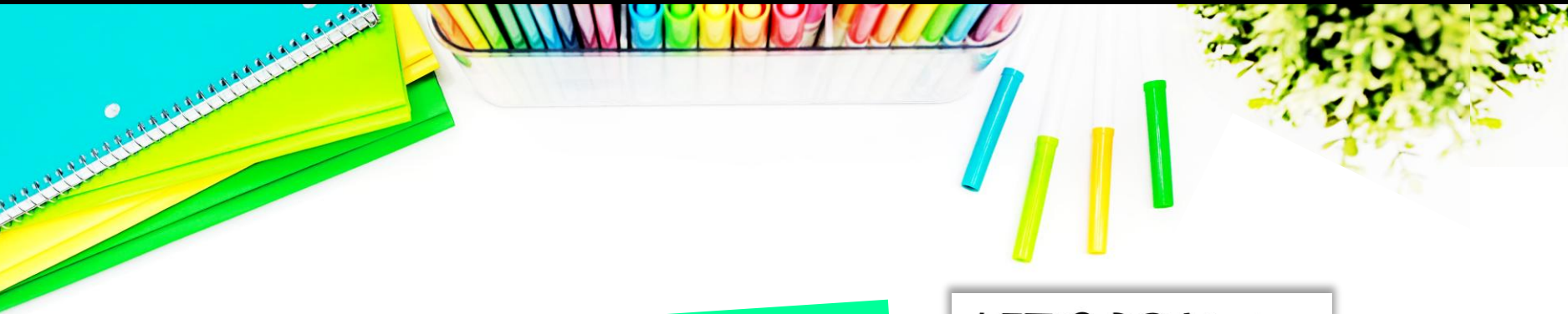
hub fug cut pup gum fun rug mug out

The right place has **G O L D I N I T S** name.

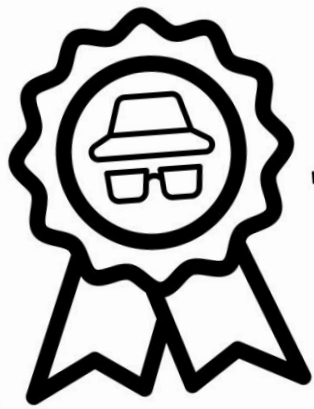
Differentiate within your small groups. Same clues. Same mystery. Different focus!

There is a version of the mystery included that reviews CVC Words (Short A, E, I, O, U).

FAST FINISHER ACTIVITY



The Detective Agency sends
congratulations to:



Lindsay

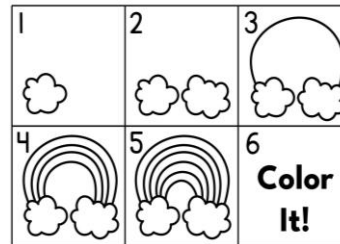
You solved the mystery!

11/2
Date

AW
Presented by:

LET'S DRAW...

a rainbow



THE LIFETIME LEARNER

LET'S DRAW...

a top hat




THE LIFETIME LEARNER

If students finish early,
give them a
certificate of completion
and a directed drawing
to complete while others
continue working.













PHONICS MYSTERY BENEFITS



- No Prep
- Print and Digital Versions
- 3 & 5 Clue Options
- Fun and Engaging
- Easy to Differentiate
- Encourages Critical Thinking
- Aligns with Phonics Standards
- Perfect for Review Days
- 2 Versions: Phonics Review OR CVC Words. You can even mix/match clues to combine the 2 skills together.

Clue #4: Error Analysis 

Does the picture match the word? Put a check or an X next to each answer.
Read the hint from the leprechaun with the most correct answers.

Clue 1: The gold is not in a place with a field.	Clue 2: The gold is not in a place with a river.	Clue 3: The gold is not in a place with shade.
		
 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> snip	 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> slid	 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> skip
 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> snap	 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> swim	 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> slam
 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> stop	 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> slip	 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> sled

THE LIFETIME LEARNER

In K-1, this works well as a whole group lesson or in small groups at the teacher table.

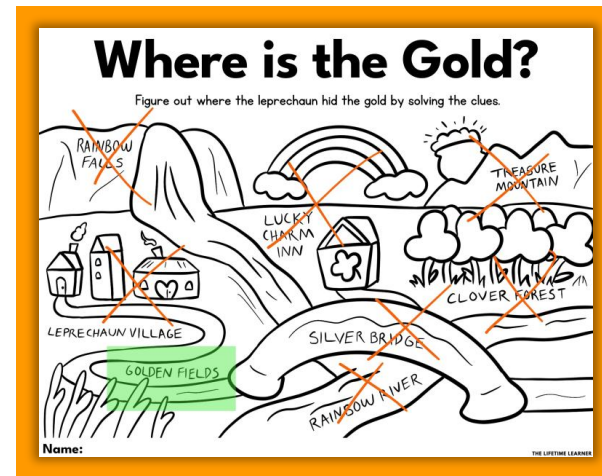
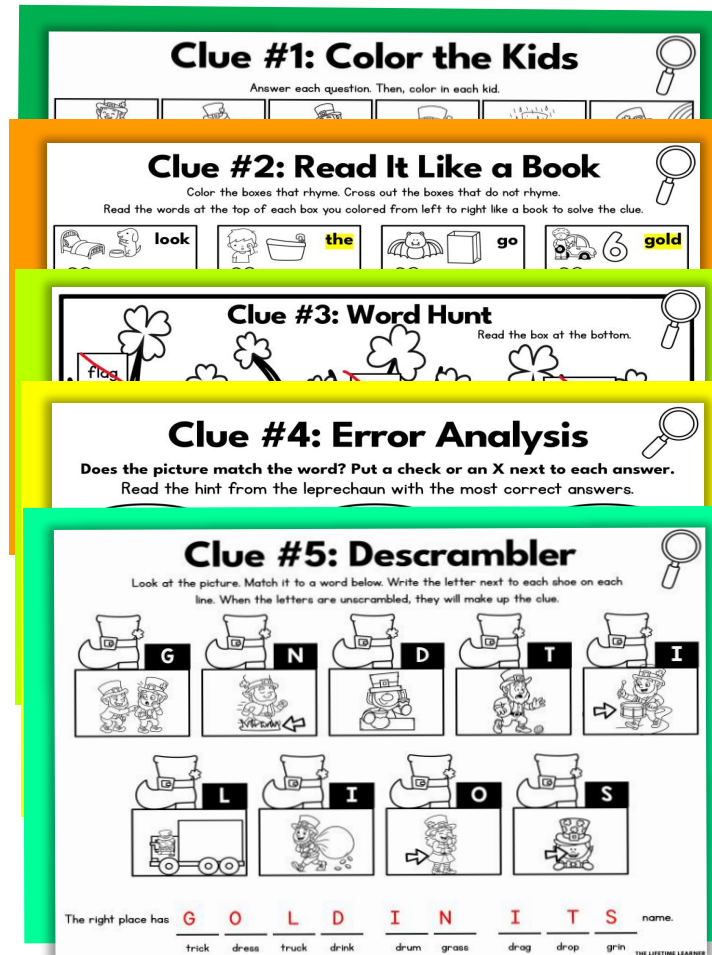
Students will need teacher support to read & understand the clues/directions.

WHY TEACHERS LOVE THESE!

Ordinary phonics worksheets can be boring and unoriginal.

You want activities that are fun and engaging, but also rigorous and meaningful to student learning.

PHONICS MYSTERIES ARE EXACTLY WHAT YOU'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR!



WHAT MAKES READING MYSTERIES UNIQUE?

Reading Mysteries aren't just a copy of Math Mysteries!

They have brand-new clues, focus on reading skills, and even feature a different conclusion to the mystery.

The only thing that stays the same is the list of suspects students start with!

So, if you have both, students can play during math and then again during reading for double the fun.


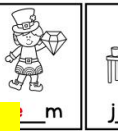
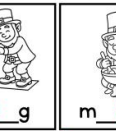



Reading

Example
of Clue 1

Math

Clue #1: Color the Kids

Answer each question. Then, color in each kid.

1	2	3	4	5	6
					
m	j	u	g	m	i
x	w	e	t	r	a
n					

What color kids do you see? Find the key that matches for your next hint!

1	2	3	4
1 red kid 1 blue kid 2 green kids 2 yellow kids The gold is not in a place filled with trees.	2 red kids 2 blue kids 1 green kid 1 yellow kid The gold is not in a place with water.	2 red kids 1 blue kid 2 green kids 1 yellow kid The gold is not where it's hard to climb.	1 red kid 2 blue kids 1 green kid 2 yellow kids The gold is not in a place like a hotel.

Clue #1: Decoder

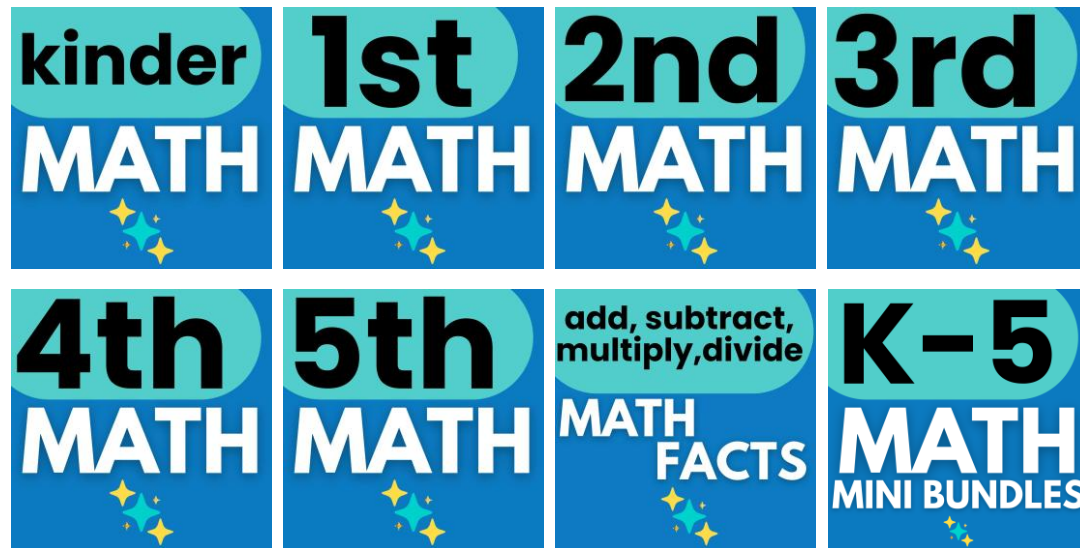
Write the answer. Then write the word under it.

	5+10=	10+1=	8+10=
11= is	15	11	18
12= house	gold	is	not
13= near			
14= water			
15= gold			
16= tree			
17= clover	10+3	9+10=	10+2=
18= not	13	19	12
19= any	near	any	house
20= walk			

KEEP THE FUN GOING!

GRAB A MATH MYSTERY:

Math Mysteries aren't just a copy of reading. They come with fresh clues, unique math challenges, and a new culprit, so students are solving an entirely different case!



MORE READING MYSTERIES:

Explore other grade levels to differentiate and keep every student engaged.



**BUY A BUNDLE
TO SAVE BIG!**

